

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 14910 030444Z

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 STR-05 /037 W

-----042553 030454Z /23

P 020422Z DEC 77

FM AMCONGEN HONG KONG

TO /SECSTATE WASHDC PRIOTIY 8043

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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GENEVA FOR US MTN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, HK, MTN

SUBJ: POSSIBLE NON-TRAIFF BARRIERS

REF: STATE 285446

1. HONG KONG TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT (TIDC) HAS INFORMED CONGEN THAT AUTOMATIC VENDING MACHINES REQUIRE NO LICENSE OF ANY SORT FOR IMPORT INTO HONG KONG. BUT, MECHANICAL GAMES OF CHANCE, SUCH AS PINBALL OR ROULETT MACHINES, WHICH HONG KONG LAW CONSIDERS "GAMBLING MACHINES," DO NEED AN IMPORT LICENSE FROM TIDC; AND THE ESTABLISHMENT WHERE THERE MACHINES WOULD BE USED MUST BE LICENSED BY THE HKG HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT. PROVIDED THE ESTABLISHMENT IS REPUTABLE, NEITHER LICENSE SHOULD TAKE MORE THAN SEVERAL WEEKS TO OBTAIN.

2. AMERICAN PRODUCTS HAVE HELD ROUGHLY HALF THE HONG KONG MARKET FOR AUTOMATIC VENDING MACHINES OVER THE LAST THREEY YEARS (91 PERCENT IN 1975), WITH MANY OF THE MACHINES SELLING US PRODUCTS IN CROWDED PUBLIC PLACES SUCH AS TRANSPORTATION TERMINALS. CONGEN CANNOT READILY PROVIDE COMPARABLE IMPORT DATA FOR GAMBLING MACHINES SINCE HKG TRADE STATISTICS DO NOT IDENTIFY THESE SEPARATELY. IF DEPARTMENT WISHES, WE WILL ASK HK TICD
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TO CALCULATE GAMBLING MACHINE IMPORTS FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS.

3. IF DEPARTMENT HAS SPECIFIC INSTANCES OF AMERICAN EXPORTERS FACING DIFFICULTIES OR DELAYS IN BOTAINING GAMBLING MACHINE IMPORT LICENSES, CONGEN WILL TAKE UP CASES WITH HK TICD.
SHOESMITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: TARIFF LIBERALIZATION
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: ETRD, HK, MTN
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